

Healthy Animals, Healthy People

Projects by Vétérinaires Sans Frontières



VSF
Europa

SIVtro Italy

AVSF France

VSF Germany

VSF Portugal

VETAID UK

VSF Austria

Veterinarios Sin
Fronteras Spain

VSF Belgium

DIO Netherlands

VSF Switzerland

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Vétérinaires Sans Frontières (VSF) Europa is an international non-profit association, established in 2002 and based in Brussels.

It is a network of ten members, the national VSF associations of Austria (VSF Austria), Belgium (VSF Belgium), France (AVSF), Germany (TOG), Italy (SIVtro VSF Italy), the Netherlands (DIO), Portugal (VSF Portugal), Spain (Vetermon), Switzerland (VSF Suisse) and the UK (Vetaid).

VSF Europa's goal is improved living conditions for the most vulnerable rural communities.

Three quarters of the world's poor depend on livestock for their survival. Therefore VSF members are all working towards reducing poverty and preserving food sovereignty by supporting small-scale farmers and rural livelihoods.

VSF Europa was created in order to strengthen the collaboration between its members, through sharing information, human resource, results and experiences from the field.

VSF Europa aims to raise the awareness of the wider public on the role of livestock as a key factor in sustainable development, through worldwide advocacy based on the perspective of local partners.

VSF members implement globally more than 100 cooperation projects in 40 countries with an annual budget of more than 20 million Euros. The sectors of intervention of VSF include community-based animal health programmes; support to local veterinary services; natural resource management; promotion of traditional veterinary knowledge; support to mar-

ket access for small scale farmers; emergency relief and preparedness; promotion and defence of food sovereignty and promotion of income generation activities.

In the present publication some of the members' projects are presented, selected to represent the main areas of intervention. This very broad spectrum of activities reflects VSF Europa's wide approach in livestock related cooperation projects with rural communities, and the importance of awareness raising in developed countries, addressed to all levels of civil society.

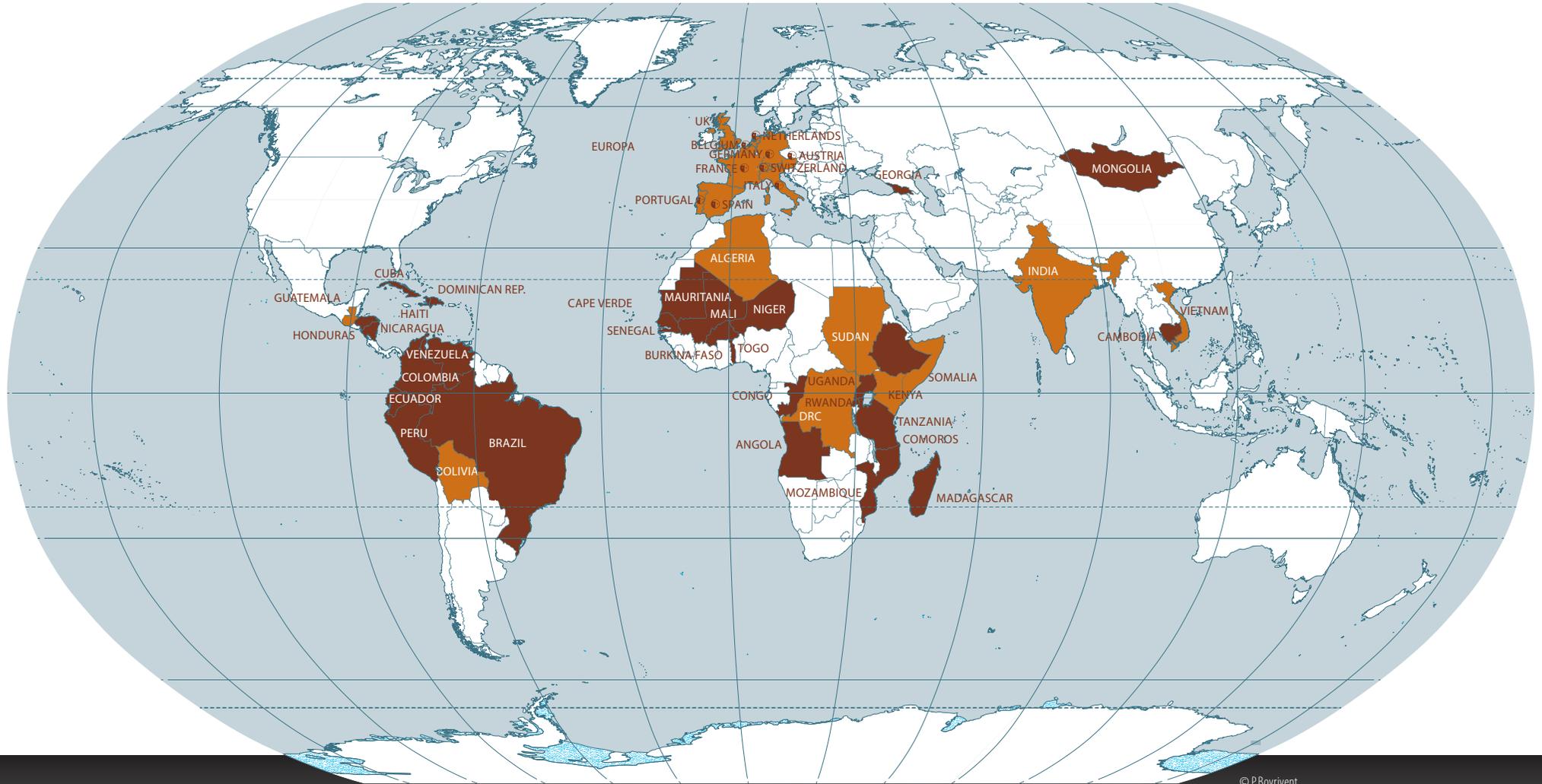
Nowadays global markets and the global use of resources mean that the problems of agricultural communities are a global matter, thus interventions in the field cannot be separated from awareness campaigns: VSF Europa is committed to acting as a link between North and South, between small-scale farmers and consumers, between practitioners and politicians. VSF Europa promotes a new approach in agriculture, based on social, economic and environmental equity. That is the reason why the present publication is addressed not only to institutional partners in the development sector, but also to the wider public willing to engage with and increase their awareness of rural development issues.

We hope you enjoy it!

Alessandro Broglia
President of VSF Europa



VSF Europa is present in more than 40 countries with 110 projects



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- AVSF FRANCE:** BOLIVIA - BRAZIL - COLOMBIA - CAMBODIA - COMOROS - ECUADOR - GUATEMALA - HAITI - HONDURAS - MADAGASCAR - MALI - MONGOLIA - NICARAGUA - NIGER - PERU - SENEGAL - TOGO - VENEZUELA - VIETNAM
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- DIO - VSF NETHERLANDS:** INDIA - TANZANIA
- VSF PORTUGAL:** ANGOLA - CAPE VERDE - MOZAMBIQUE
- VSF AUSTRIA:** TANZANIA

VSF EUROPA's presence ■
 Example country watchable in this document ■

Project Animal Health



Algeria

Information on the project

Location

4 camps in a 10,000 square Km area nearby the small Algerian city of Tinduf and the liberated territories Western Sahara.

Beneficiaries

160,000 refugees, 6,000 breeders, SVD personal (15 veterinary technicians, 135 women in charge, paravets in the liberated territories)

Promoting NgO

SIVtro VSF Italy and NGO Africa70.

Period

2007-2010

Budget

€ 797,496

Financial partners

Co-financed by EuropAid (European Union)

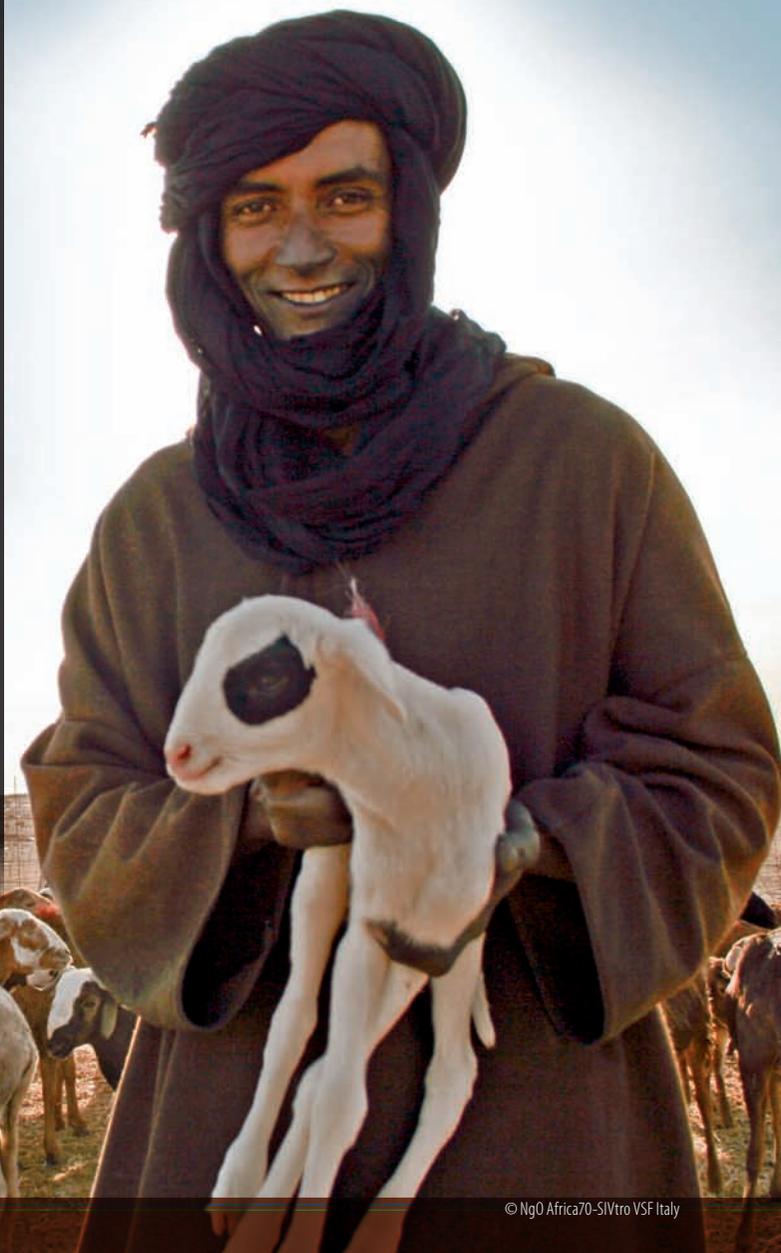
Summary of activities

The aim of the project is to improve the living conditions of the refugees by improving the production and health status of their livestock. This is achieved by upgrading the capacity of the local veterinary service.

The intervention is carried out on two levels:

Upgrade of the Sahrawi Veterinary Department (SVD) of the Health Ministry (Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic – SADR): the SVD personnel (15 veterinary technicians, 135 women in charge, 14 paravets in the free territories) and 6,000 breeders and a training centre for veterinary medicine has been created in the refugee camp to train new paravets (due to the constant high emigration rate of the Sahrawi people).

Improving the health and productivity of the livestock (being the unique source of fresh food and high value protein): about 60,000 sheep and goats, 1,000 camels, donkeys, small numbers of chickens, hens and rabbits and some transhumant camel herds in the free territories in the Eastern part of Western Sahara belonging to the SADR or to private owners.



SIVtro VSF Italy

Testimony of Sidahmed Mohamed Lfdil, veterinary technician, veterinary unit of the refugee camp “27th February”

“Since the beginning of the projects by SIVtro VSF Italy there is more attention to animal care in the refugee camps. Almost daily, farmers come to me, with some clinical cases of sick animals, sheep, lambs and even cats. When the farmers come to me, I treat the animal, but I also talk to them. We discuss their livestock. People usually don’t know much about animal diseases. This way the animals are treated, and people are educated and sensitised at the same time.”



© NgO Africa70-SIVtro VSF Italy

Objectives	Results / outcomes
<p>1 Changes achieved in the production systems and the impact on the economic situation of the families.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Institutional support for the Sahrawi Veterinary Department (SVD) of the Health Ministry (Sahrawi Arabian Democratic Republic - SADR). ▶ The creation of a training centre for veterinary medicine in the refugee camps. ▶ Support to SVD routine activities (epidemiological monitoring, inspection of food of animal origin, clinical examination, laboratory diagnostics, etc.). ▶ Creation of a database about the condition of Sahrawi livestock and about the Sahrawi traditional medicine knowledge. ▶ Legal framework and a series of technical regulations about animal health control and animal trade.
<p>2 Socio-economic impact on the situation of the families and women.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Focus on building the capacity of the SVD human resources in order to guarantee a durable impact of the project by building up an independent veterinary service that could be transferred once the refugees return to their country or elsewhere. ▶ Introduction of payment for SVD personnel.
<p>3 Development of a more sustainable, more participative and more equitable management of the resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Animal health control. ▶ Improvement of the local breeding techniques. ▶ Improvement of traditional veterinary medicine and management. ▶ Improvement of production of animal derived products and trading opportunities.
<p>3 Development of a more sustainable, more participative and more equitable management of the resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Introduction of payment for SVD personnel, country or elsewhere.

Project Animal health support in poor quarters in the city of Praia

Cape Verde

Information on the project

Location

Cape Verde.

Beneficiaries

Estimated 100.000, of which 50% are under 15 years of age.

Partners

Associação Bons Amigos.

Period

Ongoing since 2003.

Budget

Estimated € 300,000.

Financial partners

Financial support is mainly coming from Austria through charity.

Summary of activities

The project's objectives are centred on veterinary support providing basic medical assistance to small animals that live in urban areas of very poor districts in the main town and capital of Cape Verde.

The basic organisation is supported by an association named Bons Amigos, established in 2003. This organisation has its headquarters in Ponta d'Água, where people regularly apply for veterinary assistance. However they also organise regular visits to other districts, where animals are brought by their owners to get free health assistance. This free assistance is mainly focused on basic parasite control. Special attention is paid to scabies, which is very common in dogs and also reported in people, especially children.

Twice a year Bons Amigos organises sessions for castration of male and female animals, mainly dogs, with the assistance of veterinary surgeons from Germany (Förderverein Arche Noah Kreta).

VSF (Veterinários sem Fronteiras) Portugal has been involved in this project with some of its members staying for short periods of time in Praia, especially during the castration sessions. VSF Portugal has also provided help through veterinary advice on particular issues that are regularly necessary.

There is frequent e-mail and telephone contact. VSF Portugal has helped Bons Amigos to apply for their registration in the Capverdian platform for NGOs in 2008, through the submission of a project that is now awaiting approval.





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Objectives	Results / outcomes
<p>1 Veterinary supports to poor families</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ About 40 consultations a day in the headquarters of Bons Amigos where regular health care is provided and veterinary medical assistance when the teams of veterinarians are present. ▶ Castration of males and females in two sessions per year to help control stray dogs.
<p>2 Public health results</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Decrease in the number of cases of scabies in children. ▶ No stray dogs with scabies in the districts where animal health assistance is regularly provided. ▶ Reduction in the number of stray dogs in the poor districts where animal health assistance is provided.
<p>3 Public health results</p>	<p>Results where animal health assistance is provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Reduction in the number of stray dogs in the poor districts where animal health assistance is regularly provided. ▶ No stray dogs with scabies in the districts where animal health assistance is provided. ▶ Decrease in the number of cases of scabies in children.

How the partnership with VSF Portugal has helped *Bons Amigos*.

"We believe that contacts with VSF Portugal have been mutually beneficial. Bons Amigos has provided facilities and conditions for training to young veterinarians. This way they come into contact with diverse problems, from the routine of anti-parasite treatment and vaccines to more complicated cases of poly traumatised animals or caesareans, in conditions where technical resources are scarce. Bons Amigos has benefited from veterinary support that does not exist in Cape Verde in diagnosis and laboratory facilities. Furthermore, having Portuguese as the common mother tongue is a great advantage."



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Project Sustainability Ayllus of the Intersa

Bolivia

Information on the project

Location - The southern Altiplano, in the Potosi region.

Beneficiaries
3,000 indigenous Aymara families.

Technical partners
5 regional associations' members of Quinoa Growers; The national of the Quinoa growers (ANAPQUI) and the 3 municipal districts of Llica, Tahua and Garci de Mendoza; and different French actors of fair trade.

Period - 2002/2010

Budget for 3 years - € 926,640

Financial partners
The project is co-financed by EU, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, District of Tahua and 17 communities of districts of Llica and Tahua.

Summary of activities

The strategy of the project is to appraise the various technical and economic alternatives available in order to encourage systems of quinoa production and of livestock breeding (camelidae species, particularly llamas, and sheep), which are economically viable and ecologically sustainable.

Supporting land and natural resource management of the land in this fragile ecosystem in the Bolivian Altiplano, through structured communication between the traditional local authorities (ayllus) and other local

stakeholders (producer organisations and town councils) is fundamental.

The LLICA project encourages the quinoa-growing and llama-rearing organisations to improve strategic arrangements where their livelihoods coincide, and in so doing, places an emphasis on the sustainability of production and on social and organisational considerations. Furthermore, it foresees a defined process of communication between the various institutional bodies involved so that local development policies are formulated in equal partnership.



Testimony of a beneficiary

"Acalamaya, our community, is really isolated and the road which goes to the city is bad. There is not even a school at Acalamaya. We depend on the health centre of the community of Luca, but it is very far, a nurse visits us once a month. It is important to combine the breeding of llama and the production of quinoa. This year, the harvest of quinoa is not very good, the llama gave us food, clothes and allow us to send our children to school.

Thanks to the support of AVSF, we were able to create funds for experimentation. At this moment, we are testing various natural manures according to the quality of the soil for the production of quinoa. Some of us participated in training session on animal health, soil conservation of



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Objectives	Results / outcomes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Adoption of measures that limit wind erosion (e.g. hedges, tractor use) in 15 communities. ▶ Adoption of measures to limit the loss of soil fertility (e.g. cutting to harvest crops, fertilisation by animals, composting) in 12 communities. ▶ 10 communities adopted standards of animal health to ensure herd survival.
2 Socio-economic impact on the situation of the families and women.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Limiting the fall in quinoa-output, through conservation of soil fertility, and by fighting plant diseases and insects. ▶ Conservation and consolidation of the breeding activity in 10 communities. ▶ Development of complementary extra-agricultural activities (community tourism and craft industry). ▶ Frequent meetings organised in the different communities, to improve the participation of women in communal decision processes. ▶ Development of local craft industry activities, using the wool of community llamas, alpacas and sheep.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Mediating in community reflection on traditional and alternative animal husbandry, in order to improve sustainability of production systems and conservation of natural resources. ▶ Communities defined more equal standards on access to land. ▶ The community discussions and decision making process on land management led to important reflection within the communities on natural resource management.
resource management: native and more equitable	<p>the communities on natural resource management: on land management led to important reflection within</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The community discussions and decision making process and ▶ Communities defined more equal standards on access to natural resources: ability of production systems and conservation of natural

Project Strengthening sustainable farming production system in the South West

Guatemala

Information on the project

Location
South West region of Guatemala

Beneficiaries
2,674 farmers

Technical partners
11 farmer associations

Period
2005/11/01 > 2006/10/31

Budget
€ 469,779 Euros

Financial partners
Government of the Balear Islands and City council of Barcelona, CADISOGUA (Coordinating Committee of Integral Guatemalan South-West).

Summary of activities

Production analysis in the 11 farmer associations.

- ▶ Definition of the potential of each zone for agricultural activities and cattle, together with the farmers of each association.
- ▶ Selection of a farmer leader in each association, to act as a peasant representative.

Qualification and establishment of a network of peasant representatives in 11 associations.

- ▶ Training of farmer leaders in technical, organisational and commercial aspects of production.
- ▶ Training of the farmers of 173 communities by the peasant representatives.

Establishment of a farming programme in each association.

- ▶ Putting into practice the knowledge learned in local demonstration plots (one per association).

Phase of commercialisation and regional negotiation.

- ▶ Compiling studies of commercialisation from the positive experiences.
- ▶ Analysing and influencing farming policies at regional and national level, in order to improve food sovereignty.
- ▶ Setting up a farmer fair, managed by the farmers.



**VETERINARIOS
SIN FRONTERAS**

VSF Spain



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Objectives	Results / outcomes
<p>1 Changes realised in production systems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Analysis of the farming policies to strengthen food sovereignty.
<p>2 Socio-economic impact on the situation of the families and women.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A leader was selected in each farmer group. These leaders were trained as agricultural specialists, and they passed on their knowledge to the people in the different communities. ▶ In each village the organisational structure of the associations was reinforced by the training of a community board of directors. ▶ The families obtained a much more regular income. ▶ Organisation of a farmer fair.
<p>3 Development of a more sustainable, more participative and more equitable resource management.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A locally administered, sustainable farming program was developed in each association to support the farmers of the area in improving sustainable production. ▶ Diversification and commercialisation of the farmers' production.

Testimony of a beneficiary

"Four year ago, the association ADESI, to which I belong, informed me that the NGO Veterinarios Sin Fronteras were going to name one farmer per community to become Field officer. I adore animals, already as a child, and I was always interested in helping to improve our community, so I started working as a volunteer. After one year of training, I received my Field officer diploma. I learned how to recognise the diseases of all the animals and how to work out remedies by using the medicinal plants that exist in my community.*

After I obtained my diploma, I worked in my village. My life has changed completely during the last 4 years. From my desperate situation not knowing how to maintain my family, I went on to become a respected leader in my community. Moreover, with the money I make through being in charge of the pharmacy and my services as Farmer Technician, my kids can go to school and they will not be illiterate as I am: thanks to that, they will have a better future."

* Association for the integral development of Ixchiguan-municipality in the San Marcos department of Guatemala.



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Project Drought Man

Kenya

Information on the project

Location
Turkana District Kenya

Beneficiaries
120,000 people.

Partners
Oxfam, VSF Germany, ACTED, Practical Action.

Period
May 2008 to June 2011.

Budget
€ 2,222,222

Donors
European Union

Summary of results

Result 1 - Increased and sustainable access to dry season grazing and water

Result 2 - Protection of key livelihood assets through privatised support systems and alternative sources of income.

Result 3 - Improved community based drought preparedness and harmonization of approaches of key stakeholders.

Result 4 - Improved conflict mitigation and peace building.

Complementary project - The project runs parallel to a water project which is being implemented by Oxfam and develops seasonal water sources such as sub surface dams in dry season grazing areas.

Project approach - The project uses the Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) approach to empower communities to understand the linkages between their available assets and to empower them to use these linkages to take responsibility for their own livelihood development. The project supports this approach through the use of Pastoral Field Schools (a concept developed by VSF B and FAO) and village savings and loan schemes which enable beneficiaries to save and invest the increased income accrued from improved planning and livestock keeping practices.

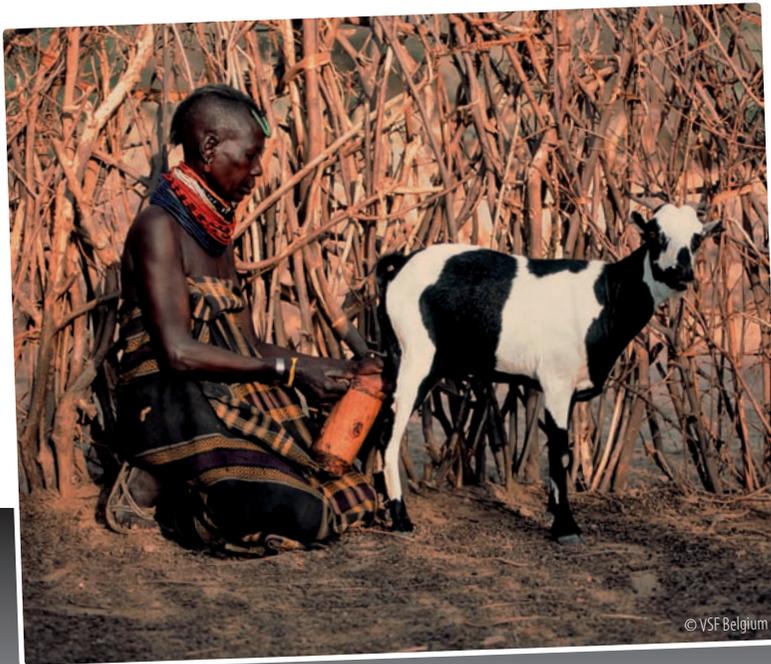


DIERENARTSEN | VETERINAIRES
ZONDER GRENZEN | SANS FRONTIERES
BELGIUM

Testimony of a beneficiary

"We cannot understand why such a programme has not taken place before. We feel empowered as a community as the project enables us to recognise assets where we only saw problems.

It makes us realise that it is our responsibility and the responsibility of our leaders to ensure that we are able to live peacefully with our neighbours and we recognise the benefit that this will bring to our livestock and our livelihoods. We have never before played such an active role in a project nor witnessed a project which so accurately targets that we truly need."



Objectives

- 1 To contribute to the improved effectiveness and efficiency of the drought management system in Kenya by strengthening the capacity to intervene in an appropriate, effective and timely fashion before and during the drought cycle.
- 2 To build the capacity of local communities in Turkana and Pokot to proactively address their own needs in relation to improved disaster preparedness and response.

Results / outcomes

- ▶ A 5% decrease in the number of people living below the absolute poverty line in Turkana and Pokot Regions by the end of the project (measured through government statistics).
- ▶ A 5% decrease in the Global Acute Malnutrition rate (GAM) for both regions by the end of the project (measured through WFP statistics).
- ▶ A 10% decrease in the number of people dependent on food aid in the target areas by the end of the project. Measured through the comparison of baseline information with the final evaluation of the project's impact.

Project Sool P

Somalia

Information on the project

Location

4 districts of Dharar, Quardh and Taleh of the Sool Platea

Beneficiaries

Direct 2000 pastoral househ living in Sool plateau (14,000 persons), indirect mobile pa population from near by exp estimated 15,000 persons.

Partners

Local NGOs (Penha, TAAKUL and SHILCON) and the minis of Livestock, Agriculture and Environment.

Period

June 2005 to May 2008

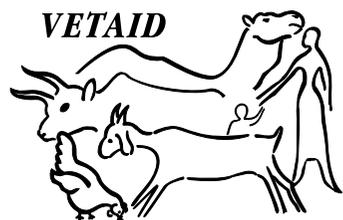
Budget

€ 880,696

Summary of activities

Pastoral communities in Sool Plateau are faced with numerous challenges to their food security. Sporadic and decreasing rains, environmental degradation, population growth and civil conflict have all contributed to their vulnerability. The ban on importation of Somali livestock by the main Arab importing countries has also had a crippling impact.

The main goal of the project is to contribute to the alleviation of poverty among the rural population on the Sool Plateau leading to a more peaceful, equitable and democratic society in Somalia. Specifically, the project aims for strengthened livelihoods for more than 2000 pastoral households in the four districts of Dharar, Quardho, Hudun and Taleh of the Sool Plateau through improved natural resource management and animal husbandry.



Testimony

VETAID's work in northern Somalia's Sool Plateau addresses the difficulties farming communities face in this remote, arid part of Africa. It is a climate of extremes, where local farming families suffer from torrential rains and flooding during the rainy season, known locally as the Gu. In the dry season, Jilaal, these same farmers struggle to find enough water to irrigate the land where their animals graze and where fodder is grown for use during the drier months.

In addition, hundreds of people live illegally in the Sool's forests, routinely burning the trees for valuable charcoal. This has left the eco-system near collapse and local farmers with terrible irrigation due to serious erosion.

In response to this, VETAID has established local groups which are responsible for managing the use of the land on the plateau. These groups have arranged for the charcoal burners to be moved on from the forests, to prevent further destruction of trees and subsequent erosion.

Jobs are created for the local community who are paid to help build flood protection and erosion control structures, such as small dams and sand banks, and to plant tree seedlings to replace burnt forests.

«By organizing community-based groups, villagers can manage their natural resources locally, explains Ahmed Artan Mohamed, VETAID's Sool Plateau Project Manager, "Simple actions, such as building small dams to channel water down to the grazing plains and fields can make it easier for people to grow fodder, graze their animals and access enough water. This means they have a more reliable source of food and income.»

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 and fields can make it easier for people to grow fodder, graze their
 building small dams to channel water down to the grazing plains
 VETAID's Sool Plateau Project Manager, "Simple actions, such as
 their natural resources locally, explains Ahmed Artan Mohamed



Objectives	Results / outcomes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Establishment of active and effective District Pastoral Associations (DPAs) in four target districts. ▶ Improved level of performance and skills among the 53 trained Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) from Taleh, Huddun, Dhahar and Qardo Districts. ▶ Improved natural resource management and animal husbandry.
<p>2 Socio-economic impact on the situation of the families and women.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Community-based animal health services are established: decentralized veterinary services at village level, veterinary drug stock for 4 pharmacies (3 of the 4 are managed by female CAHW's) in the target districts, training CAHWs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Collective environmental and water related infrastructures and grazing lands are rehabilitated (increased irrigated fodder production, rehabilitated rangeland and forest) ▶ Improved community access to water through surface earthen dams construction at Qardo, Huddun, Taleh and Dhahar Districts. ▶ Community protection against flooding in Dhahar District.
	<p>Districts:</p>

Development education project Raising awareness on the importance of small-scale farming in developing countries to increase food security and reduce poverty

Europa

Information on the project

Location

Belgium, France, Italy, UK.

Beneficiaries

1,600

Southern partners

CROSE / FONHADI / GREF / FONDHILAC (Haïti), Karkara (Niger), Cenesta (Iran), PINGOS (Tanzania), IMBARAGA (Ruanda).

Period

March 2007 to February 2010

Budget

€ 871,258

Funders

European Union, MAEE, Région Rhône Alpes, CGR-DRI, Province du Luxembourg, Amministrazione Provinciale di Napoli, Department for International Development.

Summary of activities

- ▶ Produce educational tools in collaboration with partners in developing countries.
- ▶ Organise conferences and round table discussions for farmers across Europe.
- ▶ Organise seminars to raise awareness amongst agriculture and vet students in Europe.





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Objectives	Results / outcomes
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The members of the VSF Europa network and their partners in developing countries have educational tools corresponding to their needs, on small-scale farming, food sovereignty and internationalisation of exchanges.
<p>2 Awareness of professionals and representatives of rural areas is raised and they are mobilised in Europe in favour of small-scale farming.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Professionals and representatives of European rural areas are better informed on the state of international rural development and are establishing sensitisation and cooperation actions in favour of small-scale farming.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Awareness of students is raised and they are mobilised in Europe in favour of small-scale farming.

<p>3 Awareness of students is raised and they are mobilised in Europe in favour of small-scale farming.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Awareness of students is raised and they are mobilised in Europe in favour of small-scale farming.
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Quotes from agronomy students in France

"Agriculture has a future; we just need to give it the keys for success!"

"What I liked in the course we had was the confrontation with reality and the correction of our prejudices"

"Fair Trade represents a real alternative to the international trade system. We believe in it and we will do our best to take part in it!"



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Development education project *Looking for the sun (Buscando el sol)*

A puppet theatre as a tool to reflect on food sovereignty

Spain

Information on the project

Location
Spain

Beneficiaries
3,895 persons, pupils and teachers of first grade education centres.

Period
2007-2008

Budget
€ 116,850.12

Financial partners
AECI (Spanish Agency for International Cooperation).

**VETERINARIOS
SIN FRONTERAS**

VSF Spain

Summary of activities

Representation of the puppet theatre
"Buscando el sol (looking for the sun)":

The work is based on a Chinese traditional story that explains the history of a giant who crosses half of its country looking for the sun that was robbed by a group of demons and hidden in a cave in the middle of the sea. The trip of the Chinese giant opens the discussion about the concept of food as a human right and the idea of food sovereignty. The puppets show how the rural world

is and how the poor people live. They transmit the message of the need for cooperation and solidarity.

The teachers use a pedagogical kit to work into detail on the different themes and values of the story. The material is made as a story where different persons intervene. The present soy production and its negative consequences were used, through educative workshops with the pupils, as an example to explain the difficulties of the present food production system in terms of injustice and sustainability.



© VSF Spain



Objectives	Results / outcomes
<p>Awareness raising of children from 6 to 12 years old.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 145 teachers participated in the project and used it to widen their experience. ▶ The teachers used the education kit with the children in the classes, 50 workshops were set up with the pupils to stimulate them to think about the current agricultural food production. ▶ A group of 3,352 pupils enjoyed the performance. ▶ 15 performances were staged.

Testimony of member of staff at the public school *Manantiales* (Alhaurin de la Torre, Malaga)

"The kids really liked the the puppet show and the pedagogical material was designed in a direct way, adapted to their approach. The campaign in general was very interesting and it was a fun project because this gives the possibility to sensitize children to issues that concern the world economy. It helps them to see the causes of inequality and shows them the importance of international cooperation and solidarity. Nevertheless it is fundamental that this initiative is not as an isolated experience."



Project ESFGA: Soc escapeses from arm

Democratic Republic
of Congo

Information on the project

Location

Territories of Masisi and Kalehe,
North and South Kivu.

Number of beneficiaries

125

Partners

SOS-Grands Lacs

Period

2007/07/01 to 2008/08/31

Budget

CHF 158,713

Financial partners

Swiss solidarity Canton of Zug,
various private donors.

Summary of activities

The intervention consists in contributing to the socio-economic reintegration of children, escapees from armed forces and groups (ESFGA) and other vulnerable children affected by the conflicts, by:

- ▶ The installation of 125 functional goat-stables with grating (providing 7 goats and an improved he-goat per family unit).
- ▶ Education on goat-breeding for 125 ESFGA and their reception families.
- ▶ The veterinary follow-up of the livestock by the specialised technicians of VSF-Switzerland.
- ▶ The establishment of a consulting service for the local marketing of the meat at markets in order to ensure additional household income.
- ▶ The establishment of stockbreeder associations, in order to support the sustainability of the programme.



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Objectives	Results / outcomes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Construction of 125 goat-stables with grating, according to models set up by VSF-Switzerland, and using locally available materials. ▶ For socio-economic reintegration, core-groups were set up and trained. These consisted of 32, 33, 34 and 26 young people, grouped by location. ▶ Selection, purchase, marking, treatment and distribution of 875 goats and 125 improved he-goats. ▶ More than 18,000 treatments were administered against the common diseases during the period of adaptation of the distributed livestock.
<p>2 Training of the beneficiaries of the goat breeding program and the veterinary follow-up.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 125 family members of the ESFGA have participated in 4 training courses in management of a goat-stable and in on-the-job trainings once a week. ▶ 3,638 home visits, developed within the framework of the different training topics. ▶ Existence and operation of 125 family units of profitable goat breeding, 199 deliveries of young goats and several gestations.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Promotion and marketing for the commercialization of the meat. Organization of publicity campaigns, including TV and Radio.
<p>4 Establishment of stockbreeder associations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The stockbreeders have formed 4 associations and are able to defend their interests and to promote their activities.
<p>Establishment of stockbreeder associations:</p>	<p>able to defend their interests and to promote their activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The stockbreeders have formed 4 associations and are
<p>product marketing:</p> <p>3 Installation of councils for</p>	<p>TV and Radio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Promotion and marketing for the commercialization of

A new life for Ombeni

"I sold a goat to pay the school expenses of my little brother", confides Ombeni, a 16-year old ex-child soldier and beneficiary of the project of VSF-Switzerland. In less than one year, this teenage breadwinner for his family of 9 persons, doubled the initial number of goats donated by the project and currently has 14 goats. He states he is proud of himself and his breeding activity and the respect of his entourage which this activity caused. "With the incomes from the goat sales, I also envisage buying a piece of land for agriculture and a motor bike to be used as a taxi", he concludes.



Project Rearing of milk animals for the self-employment of women

India

Information on the project

Location

Nilgiris & Erode, Tamil Nadu.

Beneficiaries

125 families

Technical partners

Udhagamandalam Social Service Society (USSS), Milk Cooperative Society.

Period

January 2004 - January 2005

Budget

€ 20,691

Financial partners

Rabobank Foundation,
The Netherlands.

Summary of activities

The aim of the project was to improve the financial situation of (mainly) single and widowed women by rearing animals.

Based on possibilities to build stables, availability of grazing land and their background in animal husbandry, a group of 125 women was selected by USSS. These women were living under the poverty line, and were already organised in different Self Help Groups (SHGs) in the area where the USSS is working. A first group of 100 women got 3 goats each, and a second group of 25 women each got one cow.

Most of these women had no or little previous experience of livestock keeping. To familiarise them with farming, they therefore participated in training sessions.

The topics of these sessions included animal selection, feed/fodder management, calf rearing, insurance / role of milk producers, and the use of manure.

The project was conducted by USSS, which has also compiled detailed files of each group member, documentation and follow-up material. The government provided support in the form of free veterinary help (such as vaccination days for villages, especially for foot and mouth disease which is a problem in this particular area).

The Milk Producer's Union supports the women as well, e.g. by supplying cattle feed, green fodder, profit-bonuses and veterinary service. The Union also guarantees an income for the women when they have a regular supply of cow-milk. The presence of good veterinary support was essential for the success of the project.



DIO - VSF Netherlands

Interviews with 26 of the 125 beneficiaries

A group of 12 cow-owners and 14 goat-owners of different areas were interviewed about their experiences in the project. The interviews revealed that 81% of the beneficiaries can now consume three meals a day, which was one of the goals of the project.

All beneficiaries declared that their individual situation has enormously improved (more intensive but with a daily income for the cow-owners, less intensive for the goat-owners).

The women said that the animals provide them with an important additional income, as well as important financial security. Having animals gives them more security in case of a (financial) emergency, because they can always sell some of the animal's offspring.

The goat owners tend to keep the offspring as savings, so that they can sell it when they need the money. For example, one woman said that she kept the offspring, so that she can sell it in case of a medical emergency, or when a child wants to go to college.



Objectives	Results / outcomes
<p>1 Changes realised in production systems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The selected women received regular training, in co-ordination with the Animal Husbandry departments and the Milk Producer's Union. Private veterinarians were also involved in the training programme. ▶ 67% of the cows got a calf (female calves were mostly kept and male calves were sold) and 72% of the goats got heirs (male goats were also used for mating). ▶ The general production of cow-milk was about 10.8l/day. Only 50% of the beneficiaries consumed goat milk, about 0.5l/day.
<p>2 Socio-economic impact on the situation of the families and women.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ After the 4-month training period (with certificate), the participants received money to purchase their animal(s). This was seen as a loan without interest. Repayment of the loan was a good motivation for active participation, and subsequent profit could be made by selling some of the animal(s). The women participating were mostly widows or deserted by their husband. By giving them project ownership and responsibility, their prospects for the future improved. Having an animal improved both their economic state and social status. After one year the beneficiaries had learned enough to be self-supportive. ▶ The exchange of experiences between the different SHG was an indirect advantage of the project.
<p>3 Development of a more durable, more participative and more equitable resource management.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The women were also trained to manufacture the manure from their livestock. ▶ The cows were insured. When the cows of two members died, they had to pay only a small amount extra to get a new cow. The villagers appreciated this experience of insurance, which was a new concept to them.

management
equitable resource

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Project Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs)

Sudan

Information on the project

Location

Gogrial County, Pibor County and Kapoeta County.

Beneficiaries

The programme supported over half a million households in the region, 300 Community Animal Health Workers and their families.

Technical partners

District Vet Offices, Sudan Ministry of Animal Resources and Fishery (MARF), private vets.

Period

Since 1998 on-going

Budget

Average € 500,000, but differs from year to year.

Financial partners

USAID/OFDA, CORDAID, ECHO; UN, MARF.

Summary of activities

Although South Sudan hosts a high number of pastoralist communities depending heavily on livestock keeping, due to the long lasting war situation there is no functioning veterinary system in place. The projects are guided by field vets employed by VSF Germany. They train and supervise the Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs), who are thereby enabled to recognise and treat the most common diseases. The services are delivered by CAHWs in their communities. Training of these para-vets is of utmost importance. CAHWs receive a basic kit from VSF Germany as well, consisting of veterinary medicines and vaccines.

vaccines and is responsible for the drug and vaccine supply. In the case of disease outbreaks, samples are taken and sent to veterinary laboratories in neighbouring Kenya.

The goal is the delivery of basic animal health services, the main activities of which are mass vaccinations against major livestock diseases and standard treatments. The focus is on cattle, but increasingly also on sheep, goats and chickens - the livestock of the poor, who cannot afford to own a cow. The project aims at establishing a cost-effective, viable and sustainable animal health service, in which the livestock owners pay for services (money used for drugs, vaccines, remuneration for CAHW) in the form of livestock.



Testimony of a beneficiary

John Malek and Aurlio Akondo are representative of about 100 other Community Animal Health Workers in the East Gogrial County. The bicycles that the two men received some years ago from Vétérinaires sans Frontières Germany are a great help in their work. The two have been working as CAHWs for ten years and are part of the first group trained by Vétérinaires sans Frontières Germany.

A lot of people here are still suffering from the effects of the war. Many people seem to be paralysed, without any faith in the future. One of the practical consequences of this is that these people no longer attempt to grow crops to prepare for the dry season. For years their food stores were plundered by enemies, and these experiences are deeply engrained, so that, one year after peace was declared, they simply do not have the energy to begin living again as they had twenty-five years ago, when war broke out.

How wonderful it is then when two people have been able to hold on to what they learned ten years ago and can apply this knowledge to earn extra income and feed their families. The following comparison gives you an idea of a CAHW's earning power: for vaccinating 5,000 head of cattle, he can buy a bull; for vaccinating 100 goats, he can buy one for himself.



Objectives	Results / Outcomes
<p>1 Changes realised in production systems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Support of pastoralist communities through delivery of basic animal health services. ▶ Training and supervision of Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) by field vets of VSF Germany. ▶ A basic kit is provided to the CAHWs containing veterinary tools, protective clothes, a bicycle and some items like cooking pots, mosquito nets etc. ▶ The necessary cold chain (kerosene fridges) for vaccines was provided.
<p>2 Socio-economic impact on the situation of the families and women.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The CAHWs or para-vets are enabled to recognise and treat the most common diseases. The services are delivered by CAHWs in their communities. ▶ A lot of women were also trained as CAHWs (e.g. in East Gogrial County, 43 of the 100 CAHWs are women) to keep goats, sheep and chickens (the animals that stay behind while the men are away from their families for long periods with the cattle).
<p>3 Development of a more durable, more participative and more equitable resource management.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A delivery of basic animal health services to the high number of pastoralist communities depending heavily on livestock keeping. ▶ A cost-effective, viable and sustainable animal health service, in which the livestock owners pay for services (money used for drugs, vaccines, remuneration for CAHWs).

<p>management of the relative and more equitable durable, more participative development of a more</p>	<p>CAHWs) (money used for drugs, vaccines, remuneration for services, in which the livestock owners pay for services)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A cost-effective, viable and sustainable animal health service on livestock keeping. ▶ A delivery of basic animal health services to the high
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Tanzania

**Information
on the project****Localisation**

Dar es Salaam, Arusha.

Beneficiaries

1050 veterinarians, scientists, key officials and technicians working in the field of Public Health.

Partners

Central Veterinary Laboratory,
Ministry of Livestock Development
and Fisheries - Tanzania.

Duration

2009/2011

Budget

€ 185,000

Summary of results

The aim of the project is to enhance the capacity of African public health experts and to improve the quality of foodborne disease surveillance.

Foodborne disease takes a major toll on health. Thousands of millions of people fall ill and many die as a result of eating unsafe food. Food and waterborne diarrhoeal diseases, for example, are leading causes of illness and death in less developed countries, killing an estimated 2.2 million people annually, most of whom are children. Foodborne diseases not only significantly affect people's health and well-being, but they also have economic consequences for individuals, families, communities, businesses and countries. These diseases impose a substantial burden on health-care systems and markedly reduce economic productivity. Poor people tend to live from day to day, and loss of income due to foodborne illnesses perpetuates the cycle of poverty. Therefore it has never been more important for Africa to implement an efficient foodborne surveillance system.

An increasingly important role for food control systems is the delivery of information, education and advice to stakeholders across the farm-to-table continuum. These activities include the provision of balanced factual information to consumers as well as the provision of information packages and educational programmes for key officials, technicians, veterinarians and scientists working in the field of public health.



Testimony of John Laffa, African scientist in the field of Veterinary Public Health

"This project helps to ensure the production of safe food in one of the poorest regions of Africa. In the declaration of the FAO/WHO from Rome of 1996, the right to safe and adequate food was declared as a fundamental human right. But until today the aspects of food safety are generally ignored in Sub-Saharan Africa. There is no reliable data about the incidence of foodborne pathogens. Food safety only appears to be a research concern in the so called First World. This is quite a paradox, considering that it is the African consumer on whom the largest risk of infection is placed. It has never been more important for Africa to implement an efficient foodborne disease surveillance system.

Therefore African veterinarians and scientists highly appreciate the excellent e-learning tools and training programmes of VSF-Austria."



Objectives	Results / outcomes
<p>1 Development of a comprehensive training manual.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The manual provides important information on the principles and practices of food control and the trend away from a merely punitive to a preventive approach to food control. ▶ It focuses on the use of basic food hygiene and the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) system, foodborne disease surveillance and modern diagnostic tools such as PCR and Real-time PCR. ▶ It draws together all the practical and technical information needed to apply the various principles of food safety disciplines in practice.
<p>2 Development of high-level video training courses and train-the-trainer programmes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The high level video-training courses are featuring the most significant trends and research in food safety. The virtual seminars are highly adapted to the information and training needs of African experts on the field of Public Health. ▶ Each module consists of a series of overheads, video courses, case studies, exercises and train-the-trainer programme (notes for trainers including a suggested timetable for a standard four day course). ▶ The courses are offered in English and Swahili language. The seminar manual is intended for use during a three up to four-day standard training course. The modular approach allows selective use of lectures, with different overheads and notes provided to match the level of preexisting technical knowledge in different groups of participants.

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